

# State Senator Joe Crisco's LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

## BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

### Firefighter Training Funds

I was proud to have obtained funding for the volunteer firefighter training and certification program, which had been threatened with devastating cuts. Now, towns will continue to be reimbursed for a portion of the costs incurred when volunteers complete their training. I believe we must do all we can to help towns properly prepare volunteers who risk their lives to protect persons and property.

### Hunting and Fishing License Fee Reductions

We made adjustments to the 2-year budget that include reductions in resident sportsman's fees and create a credit for anyone who purchased a license between October 1, 2009 and April 14, 2010. These bills await the governor's signature.

The chocolate layer bars I prepared for the 3rd Annual Men Who Cook TEAM fund-raiser disappeared quickly. I was proud to help support this outstanding organization, which does so much for the frail elderly, parents, daycare providers and low-income residents in the region.



## MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM (MSP)

We greatly increased the number of seniors who would qualify for this program, which:

- Pays Medicare Part B premiums for enrollees
- Provides automatic eligibility for the Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy (LIS) that pays the monthly Part D premium
- Reduces co-payments on prescription drugs on the Medicare formulary

For more information, or to apply for the program please call CHOICES at **1-800-994-9422**

## DERBY FUNDING

**\$412 Million in Bonding Authorizations Cut:  
Griffin Hospital Saved**

Given these difficult economic times, it was necessary for legislators on the Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee to recommend cancellation of projects, many of them worthy, that had been authorized for funding. I am pleased, however, that through my hard work, Griffin Hospital EMS service remains eligible for funding:

**Up to \$500,000**

Griffin Hospital  
Emergency Service Facility

Dear Neighbor,

The 2010 legislative session—one of the most challenging in recent memory—has come to a close. You will find a report of our major achievements in my summer newsletter. Here, I will focus on local issues. I hope you will take a moment to review the information, and call with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



State Senator Joe Crisco

### **ADDITIONAL LEGISLATION THAT I SPONSORED:**

#### **Savings for Towns and Cities on Prescription Drug Plans**

This legislation would allow Derby, other municipalities and boards of education to purchase prescription drug coverage through the state employee plan. The costs would be considerably less than coverage now offered to many Connecticut municipalities, thereby helping to control local property taxes.

#### **Bio-Medical Research Fund Expanded:**

##### **Alzheimer's and Diabetes Research**

Through legislation I sponsored, researchers investigating Alzheimer's and diabetes are now eligible to apply for grants from the Bio-Medical Research Fund.



## State Senator **Joe Crisco**

Legislative Office Building, Room 2800  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1591

**Capitol:** 1-800-842-1420

**E-mail:** [Crisco@senatedems.ct.gov](mailto:Crisco@senatedems.ct.gov)

**Web:** [SenatorCrisco.cga.ct.gov](http://SenatorCrisco.cga.ct.gov)

**SIGN-UP FOR MY E-NEWSLETTER**

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD CT  
PERMIT NO. 3937